

CROP WEATHER REPORT



MONTANA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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Released: 2:00 p.m., MDT, April 25, 2005
For Week Ending: April 24, 2005

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar

Agricultural Summary

There were 4.1 days suitable for field work during the week. Currently, field work is 57% well underway, 22% just started and 21% haven't started spring field tillage work yet.

Topsoil moisture has improved in most areas across the State due to wide spread precipitation over the last week.

Montana encountered high temperatures mostly in the upper sixties. Glendive had the high temperature during the week at 85 degrees. The lows for the State were mainly in the upper twenties. Gold Butte had the low temperature of 19 degrees. There was moderate to heavy precipitation during the week in most areas of the State. The wet spot for the State last week was Roundup with 3.48 inches of moisture.

The weather outlook for the week of April 25 through May 1 is for below to near normal temperatures and below to near normal precipitation for the State. State normals for temperatures are highs in the mid fifties to lower sixties and lows in the mid twenties to lower forties.

Soil Moisture Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Topsoil Moisture				
Very Short	7	11	33	18
Short	24	33	32	32
Adequate	62	53	34	47
Surplus	7	3	1	3
Subsoil Moisture				
Very Short	29	38	38	35
Short	37	39	34	36
Adequate	32	22	27	28
Surplus	2	1	1	1

Field Work Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Days Suitable for Field Work				
Days	4.1	5.0	6.4	5.1
Field Tillage Work in Progress				
None	21	37	14	n/a
Just Started	22	27	19	n/a
Well Underway	57	36	67	n/a

Field Crops Report

The State received moderate to heavy precipitation in most areas. Optimal seeding conditions also have been reported in some areas. Winter wheat is out of dormancy which is the same as last year. Reports indicate better than usual winter wheat growing conditions for this time of year. Winter wheat conditions improved from last week, with 23 percent excellent compared with 14 percent last week and last year's 3 percent. Durum wheat planting is under way with 17 percent planted compared with last year's 9 percent. Corn planting has started with 7 percent planted. Barley is 43 percent planted with 6 percent of the crop emerged. Oats are 39 percent planted with 5 percent emerged, compared to last year's 35 percent planted and 6 percent emerged.

Crop Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Winter Wheat - Condition				
Very Poor	1	2	14	12
Poor	4	7	21	17
Fair	26	32	39	36
Good	46	45	23	30
Excellent	23	14	3	5

Crop Progress Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Winter Wheat - Spring Stages				
Still Dormant	0	1	0	n/a
Greening	8	11	7	n/a
Green and Growing	92	88	93	n/a
Barley				
Planted	43	24	60	32
Emerged	6	3	27	8
Oats				
Planted	39	13	35	19
Emerged	5	n/a	6	3
Spring Wheat				
Planted	38	16	42	24
Emerged	3	n/a	10	4
Corn				
Planted	7	5	17	8
Durum Wheat				
Planted	17	7	9	5

Livestock Report

Eighty-one percent of the pastures are open for grazing compared to last year's rating of 76 percent open. Calving and lambing are 88 percent and 71 percent complete, respectively, compared to last year's 88 percent for cattle and 68 percent for sheep.

Range and Pasture Feed Condition

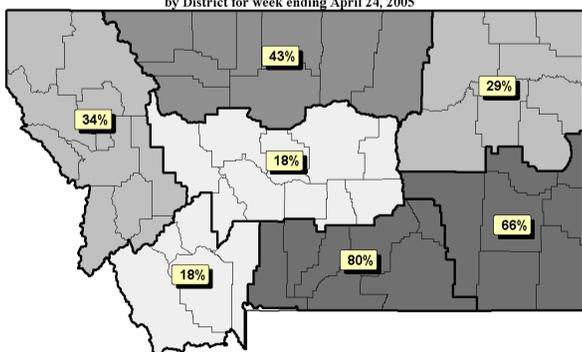
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Very Poor	17	18	23	n/a
Poor	27	34	25	n/a
Fair	39	34	32	n/a
Good	15	12	18	n/a
Excellent	2	2	2	n/a

Livestock Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Yr Ave
Livestock Grazing				
Open	81	84	76	n/a
Difficult	9	7	6	n/a
Closed	10	9	18	n/a
Receiving Supplemental Feed				
Cattle	74	82	74	n/a
Sheep and Lambs	75	79	71	n/a
Calving Completed	88	81	88	87
Lambing Completed	71	67	68	70

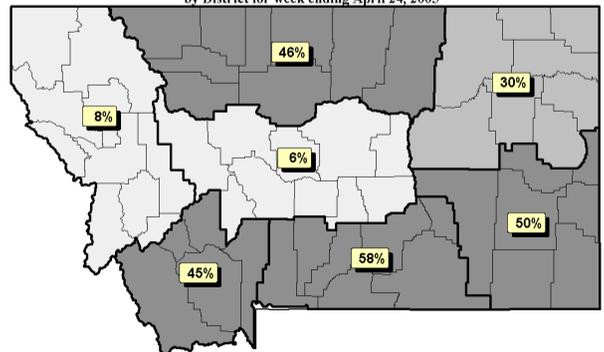
Spring Wheat Planted

by District for week ending April 24, 2005



Oats Planted

by District for week ending April 24, 2005



THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

Compiled and Summarized by:
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

In conjunction with:
MSU Extension Agents

USDA County Service Centers
National Weather Service

Weather Information Table For Week Ending 6:00 p.m. MDT, April 23, 2005 1/

STATION	TEMPERATURE PAST WEEK			PRECIPITATION							
	High	Low	Avg.	Past Week In.	April 1, 2005 to Date			October 1, 2004 to Date			
					Total 2/ Inches	Normal 3/ Inches	% Normal	Total 2/ Inches	Normal 3/ Inches	% Normal	
	Degrees										
NORTHWEST											
Drummond	70	26	41	0.30	0.93	0.75	124	3.44	5.26	65	
Hamilton	71	29	47	0.59	1.20	0.81	148	4.62	6.72	69	
Kalispell	68	30	47	0.10	0.54	0.94	57	5.88	8.73	67	
Libby	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Missoula	70	30	46	0.24	1.30	0.84	155	4.37	6.57	67	
Polson	67	33	49	0.11	1.47	1.02	144	6.03	7.45	81	
Superior	73	32	49	0.54	1.48	0.91	163	6.55	9.22	71	
Thompson Falls	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
West Glacier	70	29	48	0.03	1.52	1.36	112	M	M	M	
NORTH CENTRAL											
Chester	68	29	47	0.02	0.08	0.54	15	2.30	2.92	79	
Choteau	64	28	43	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Conrad	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Cut Bank	65	26	43	0.05	0.42	0.69	61	1.69	3.13	54	
Ft. Benton	74	29	48	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Gold Butte	67	19	44	0.03	0.48	0.84	57	3.53	3.96	89	
Harlem	71	31	51	0.00	1.72	0.56	307	4.44	3.02	147	
Havre	72	28	49	0.00	0.33	0.67	49	1.92	3.78	51	
Malta	73	32	52	0.00	1.11	0.69	161	3.48	3.64	96	
Shelby	66	27	45	0.13	0.44	0.58	76	3.71	3.11	119	
Turner	69	28	49	0.00	0.20	0.41	49	2.28	2.66	86	
Valier	66	29	45	0.48	1.23	0.71	173	3.32	3.02	110	
NORTHEAST											
Culbertson	84	27	54	0.00	0.00	0.70	0	2.26	3.38	67	
Glasgow	80	32	51	0.00	1.08	0.58	186	3.22	3.13	103	
Glendive	85	37	57	0.21	0.43	0.90	48	3.94	4.10	96	
Jordan	81	30	47	1.84	2.93	0.75	391	4.82	4.06	119	
Plentywood	82	26	51	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Scobey	82	20	51	0.00	0.00	0.64	0	1.81	2.90	62	
Sidney	M	M	M	0.00	0.00	0.82	0	3.27	4.29	76	
Wolf Point	84	29	52	0.28	0.64	0.61	105	1.48	3.25	46	
CENTRAL											
Cascade	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Flatwillow	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Great Falls	66	30	44	0.65	1.13	1.07	106	3.88	5.46	71	
Harlowton	58	28	38	1.96	2.00	1.00	200	4.46	4.35	103	
Helena	68	28	44	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Lewistown	67	28	41	1.27	1.65	1.06	156	4.84	6.31	77	
Melstone	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Roundup	82	29	47	1.91	3.48	0.98	355	6.86	4.24	162	
Stanford	67	29	43	1.23	1.26	1.18	107	4.89	5.62	87	
White Sulphur Spr	68	27	41	0.50	0.71	0.90	79	2.83	4.49	63	
SOUTHWEST											
Anaconda	65	27	39	0.69	1.01	0.90	112	4.77	5.29	90	
Belgrade	73	27	42	0.88	1.44	1.07	135	4.52	5.72	79	
Bozeman MSU	74	22	41	1.15	2.00	1.58	127	7.68	8.02	96	
Butte	61	25	38	0.49	0.86	0.78	110	2.64	4.53	58	
Dillon	66	30	41	0.87	1.45	0.94	154	3.13	3.81	82	
Ennis	69	M	44	0.00	0.56	1.00	56	3.39	4.89	69	
Wisdom	60	21	37	0.15	0.72	0.75	96	3.16	4.80	66	
SOUTH CENTRAL											
Billings	79	31	42	2.62	3.22	1.33	242	6.33	6.52	97	
Gardiner	69	30	45	0.16	0.26	0.47	55	3.78	3.64	104	
Hardin	84	31	48	1.00	2.05	1.05	195	4.67	5.04	93	
Livingston	74	26	40	1.32	1.92	1.21	159	5.74	5.68	101	
Rapelje	73	28	41	2.71	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Red Lodge	70	22	35	1.92	2.20	2.21	100	M	M	M	
SOUTHEAST											
Baker	80	27	48	1.01	1.49	1.07	139	4.95	4.81	103	
Broadus	81	33	50	1.69	2.12	1.20	177	4.43	5.30	84	
Ekalaka	78	28	49	1.34	1.78	1.42	125	5.39	6.28	86	
Miles City	82	32	50	0.74	1.39	1.07	130	3.82	4.59	83	

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.
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